

Annual General Meeting 2025

Brochure

Presented by

CUISoc Elections Board 2025

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Introduction

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ ٱللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

The Annual General Meeting ('AGM') is a special event held for the purpose of electing a new Cambridge University Islamic Society (CUISoc) Executive Committee (Shura), as well as facilitating the accountability of the outgoing Executive Committee. It is due to be held this year at Sidgwick Hall, Newnham College, Sunday 9th March, 11AM. Please arrive on time.

This brochure is intended to inform you about the structure, guidelines and processes of AGM as well as providing the manifestos of the candidates who are running. Normally, the day of AGM consists of three parts: constitutional amendments, accountability of outgoing Executive Committee and the election of a new Executive Committee. This year, we received no proposals for amending the constitution and, therefore, we shall only have accountability and elections.

The following page contains information on the elections procedure. We urge you to read it as it contains information on (but not limited to): eligibility to vote, timings of speeches, Q&A, proxy voting and voting in general.

Voting during AGM this year will be via electronic ballot In Shaa Allah. Please ensure you have a charged electronic device with the ability to read QR codes. Failing this, paper voting will be available as a last resort. Only full members may vote and proving this will require you to present your University of Cambridge card.

We hope to see you at AGM In Shaa Allah. If you still have questions regarding AGM, please do not hesistate to contact us.

Yours faithfully, CUISoc Elections Board

Elections Board

Zain Ali Brothers' Chair za303@cam.ac.uk

Ayesha Karim Sisters' Chair ak2379@cam.ac.uk

Nabil Khan nak39@cam.ac.uk

Safa Rahmathulla sr984@cam.ac.uk

Elections Procedure

1. Introduction

An Annual General Meeting (AGM) to elect the CUISoc President, Vice President, Junior Treasurer, Secretary, Student Affairs Officer, two Events Officers, Operations Officer, Design Officer, Brothers' Socials Officer, Sisters' Socials Officer and Publicity Officer will be called by the Shura annually, during the Lent term. Those components of the Elections Procedure that are not outlined in the Cambridge University Islamic Society Constitution are at the discretion of the Elections Board.

2. General

- To vote at AGM, one must be a full member. The criteria for membership is outlined in the constitution. In brief, one must be on the mailing list for at least three weeks.
- Islamic guidance will be followed in the conduct of elections.
- Please avoid campaigning for Shura positions on public platforms.

3. Annual General Meeting structure

The structure of AGM will be as follows:

- 1. Accountability Session
- 2. Election of Shura

3.1. Accountability Session

- The accountability session will aim to provide the community with an opportunity for reflection on the past year.
- The Junior Treasurer will begin the session by presenting the accounts for the past year, followed by a presentation from Shura. This will last **up to 15 minutes**, with a minimum of 5 minutes for presentation of accounts.
- Following this, community members may ask questions, commend successes and constructively raise any concerns with the outgoing Shura. This will last **up to 30 minutes**, with an **option to extend by an additional 15 minutes once**.

Elections Procedure

3.2. Election of Shura

- Candidates for the positions of President and Vice-President will each receive five minutes of speaking time in order to present their candidacy to the community. Candidates for all other positions will be given three minutes.
- Following the speeches for each role there will be a Q&A session, the proceedings of which will be held at the discretion of the Elections Committee.
- The duration of the Q&A session will be up to ten minutes for the elections of President,
 Vice President and the combined Events Officers. All other positions will have up to five minutes Q&A.
- In the event that members of the Society want to extend the Q&A, an extension of the period will be granted through a simple majority vote at the discretion of the Elections Board.
- The Elections Board will moderate the session and screen questions for soundness, respect and equitability.
- Voting will be by secret ballot and by Single Transferable Vote. There will be an option to re-open nominations (RON) for each position.

4. Proxy Voting

- Proxy voting is the act of designating one's votes for candidates prior to AGM.
- In order to proxy vote, one must notify the Elections Committee by the established deadline (6 PM on Saturday 8th March 2025).
- An extremely compelling reason must be given with regard to why one cannot attend AGM.
- Acceptance or rejection of proxy votes is at the discretion of the Elections Committee.

Voting

Voting is by Single Transferable Vote (STV). A short explanation of STV will be provided on the day of AGM.

If you would like to vote during AGM, follow these steps:

1

REGISTER

A member of the Elections Board will be seated at the front at the start of AGM to register voters. In order to register you must:

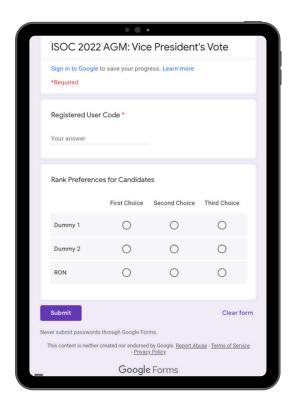
- · Bring your CamCard
- Be on mailing list for at least 3 weeks

You will then receive a unique registration code In Shaa Allah. Do not share the code and ensure you have written it down **exactly**.

2

SCAN QR CODE

After the Q&A session of each position, a QR code will be shown on screen. This will take you to a Google form, where you may rank the candidates in order of preference. You must enter your registration code.



3

VOTE

If you cannot scan the QR code, paper will be available to cast your vote.

PRESIDENT

FAZIL KHAN

Islam is a religion that has put great emphasis on community, where every member should want the best for another as many ahadith allude to. It's also a religion where every person should strive to be the best in all aspects of life and really utilise the blessings of Allah SWT.

Having said this, I feel that now ISoc is in a prime position to broaden its horizons carving its place in the Ummah at a local and national level. Through principled nurturing in the educational events we hold and powerful encouragement by established leaders, I envision ISoc members to become holistic role models, those who use their gifts to become the torchbearers in shaping the narrative of Muslims in the UK.

May Allah allow us to fulfil the honour of being the best ummah and make us of those he uses to further the Islamic cause, Ameen.

VICE PRESIDENT

ALISHA MAFAAS

My CUISoc experience has been an enlightenment in so many ways. Each day, I am honoured to serve my community alongside others who also strive for the sake of Allah, and I can't imagine any better way to continue spending my time with the experience I've gained.

As Secretary, I had the opportunity to get involved with various areas of the society, including day-to-day duties to long-term projects. Leading Muslimah Week, I delegated tasks and developed a vision for the week that could be most spiritually and socially beneficial to our members. I've prioritised clear communication throughout my tenure, coordinating vast networks of people when editing the CUISoc magazine and managing the College Reps.

At the heart of our ever-growing society, the essence of community perseveres. I wish to continue connecting with our people on a personal level as Vice-President, ensuring the unity of our members, subcommittees and Shura.

SECRETARY

MINNAT ALLAH MOHAMMED

Our Islamic Society is generous. It is a gift that endlessly gives. For me, it has been a source of community and renewed iman.

As Secretary, I'd like to be generous with my knowledge, time, and passion for your benefit and the attainment of Allah's pleasure.

My involvement in the Charity Subcommittee, EIW, and being Co-President of Homerton Isoc has developed my aptitude and administrative skills for Secretary. My minutes-writing experience as Membership Head at YEM and being on the Student Engagement Team at FOSIS would also be valuable.

Our devotion to Allah is what makes our society meaningful, so I also intend to share the spiritual knowledge I've gained in the last four years of my Alimah course.

But the heart of our Isoc is really its people. Beyond the formal responsibilities, I hope to be a thoughtful team member to Shura members and a friendly face to all.

OPERATIONS OFFICER

MAHI AHMED

After being dragged out of bed for a 7am subcom meeting, looking around at the enthusiastic (albeit dreary-eyed) brothers and sisters before me, I appreciated for the first time the sweetness of selfless teamwork for the sake of Allah which makes ISoc special. I see Operations Officer - a critical yet lesser-known role in ISoc's day-to-day running – as an avenue for greater responsibility in a society that's given me so much.

The PR, Events and BADG subcommittees have taught me about the behind-the-scenes logistics crucial to keep ISoc running smoothly. Seeing firsthand the stress of last-minute venue booking, I'd streamline this by working with college reps to create a comprehensive list of each college's rooms, capacities and availabilities.

As Operations Officer, my primary goal is maintaining and improving ISoc's efficiency - it would be an honour to take up the torch (or tripod) from Zeeshan.

ISABAH KHONDAKER

ISoc has been the heart of my university experience - a source of unity, spiritual growth, and deep connections like no other. As Operations Officer, I will give back to this community, striving to please Allah in every action we take as Shura.

Through volunteering and working closely with Shura on numerous events, I have gained a deeper understanding of ISoc's inner workings and the vital role of Operations. As Homerton ISoc Co-President, I ensure effective communication and fulfil key responsibilities that align closely with this role.

I aim to bring my experience to Operations by enhancing clear communication within Shura and subcommittees, while reducing workload through a hands-on approach - systematically identifying gaps and resolving them efficiently to ensure ISoc runs smoothly.

This role may come with challenges, but with the intention of pleasing Allah, serving ISoc, and growing spiritually, I will embrace this responsibility with sincerity and conviction.

JUNIOR TREASURER

IBRAHIM AKAK

Assalamu alaykum,

I was unaware of CUISOC until last Ramadan, but the brotherhood and belonging it has provided me has been life changing. I would like to give back to the community and who has given me so much, and that is why I wish to run.

As Vice President of TrinISOC, I helped organize a Ramadan formal and worked directly with catering to ensure halal food at every meal at Trinity. I also helped set up the society, which taught me the value of patience and diligence in administrative work.

Inshallah, I aim to help CUISoc continue being as welcoming to others as it was to me, by working more closely with the Access Subcommittee, and continuing the work of our amazing current Junior Treasurer. May Allah guide us all to serve with sincerity.

Jazakum Allahu Khair, Ibrahim

MOHAMMAD HAYYAN KIANI

CUISoc has been a true blessing. When deciding to move to Cambridge, I was anxious about finding a strong Islamic community. Alhamdulillah, ISoc has provided a seamless integration into university life, allowing me to fully focus on my studies. With a continuously growing intake, I feel obliged to help sustain this environment of security and belonging for future students too.

I have run a personal business for over three years, gaining experience in keeping accounts, budgeting, cost optimisation, and forecasting. Additionally, securing partnerships with industry leaders has equipped me to manage any sponsorships or relationships necessary for ISoc.

I got the chance to apply these skills in Charity Week bake sales, and now it would be an honour to do so society-wide. With my holistic understanding of the society's different sectors, I believe I can make well-informed, critical decisions to ensure financial stability and that every penny is accounted for.

AMEERAH SALIU

From fresher's dinner to weekly Jummah's; ISOC has been a cornerstone of my time at Cambridge. I've been blessed with friendships, and a community filled with Khayr and Ihsan.

As our community continuous to evolve; addressing our growing needs is crucial. As treasurer, I would ensure that our financial resources are managed and accounted for with integrity, transparency and efficiency. Maintaining relationships with current sponsors and liaising with future partners would be a priority to ensure the sustainability of our society. I aim to use my experiences establishing St John's ISOC and previous treasury roles to support our growing community, facilitating the events, socials and outreach that unite us as we continue to seek the pleasure of Allah SWT. It would be an honour to serve our society as your Treasurer Insha'Allah and I hope to be a friendly face and support for both shura and the wider ISOC community.

EVENTS OFFICER

YUSUF AZIZ

Events Officer is the role that stood out to me, as someone engaged in studying the Islamic Sciences, this role would match my interests and enable me to help others engage in Islamic knowledge, in all of its types. This year's events organised by the current Event Officers have been my favourite events from the ISoc and the events I have been most eager to attend regularly. Recently I took part in EIW in organising the Da'wah Stalls and Exhibition Night and got an insight into the work that Nabeel and Fazil do. I wish to organise events for all different types of people, maintaining the weekly open events which are more casual, hosting more intellectual events on topics of Fiqh, Da'wah workshops to train those interested and more simple but informative heart softening events for Muslims and Non-Muslims.

MADEEHA FARHAT

Throughout my time at Cambridge, I've been drawn to ISoc events, always leaving with a renewed sense of Islamic orientation in an environment that seeks to disorient us. Without strong Islamic foundations, it's easy to lose sight of our purpose to worship Allah, but with the right mindset and intention, even our academics are acts of ibadah. ISoc has been a crucial space for reconnecting with this, and as Events Officer, I aim to foster an environment where Muslims see their faith and studies as deeply intertwined.

Serving on the Events subcommittee, I've had the blessing of contributing to events, witnessing myself how consistency nurtures love for deen. My goal as Events Officer is to facilitate regular engagement with fundamental events that strengthen our connection to Islam and the community; this includes the continuity of Quran and hadith circles, Seerah, and other gatherings—ensuring they remain a source of spiritual growth.

SOCIALS OFFICER (BROTHER)

MUHAMMAD ABDUL GAFOOR

Having served in the EIW and PR subcommittees, as well as Co-President of Lucy ISoc, I've seen firsthand the benefit of a strong community. I'm standing to help strengthen these bonds of brotherhood, because having a good Muslim environment is crucial in a place where it's easy to feel lost.

ISoc socials made Cambridge feel much warmer for me, especially in first year, and I want other brothers to have that same experience. My goal is to make ISoc socials a space where Muslim freshers feel truly welcome, helping them integrate into Cambridge while building a strong sense of community. These gatherings also offer a halal alternative to other social events, ensuring that no one feels pressured to compromise their religion just to fit in. By creating a welcoming environment, I hope every brother finds support, true friendship, and a space to thrive - both within ISoc and the wider university.

MUSTAFID TAJWAR

ISoc has truly been a home away from home, where I've made lifelong friendships through memorable events, from the PR Chills to Snowdon Hike (I faced off against a sheep and made it to the peak with my bros). Seeing brothers with smiles on their faces despite the tough university life we lead, has shown me why I want to run for this role.

Having served on the social subcommittee this year, I understand now how to organise and take charge of creating more meaningful experiences. As your socials officer, I will voice the different opinions from the many people I interact with so that our community prospers as an ummah. Through surrounding ourselves with people of great character and spreading that onto others, I believe we can all draw closer to Allah.

SOCIALS OFFICER (SISTER)

MARYAM MOHAMED FARISH

Assalamu Alaikum, I'm Maryam, a first year medical student at Churchill and I hope to be your sister's socials officer this year.

Throughout my first year, while the transition to university can be a daunting experience, ISoc has been a place of warmth and comfort, where I have met some of the most genuine people, as well as strengthened my faith.

It is through social events, that I developed meaningful friendships and as socials officer, I hope to be able to bring the community together through a variety of events, as well as provide a welcoming environment to the new freshers, that has the feeling of home that ISoc has given to so many of us.

ISoc is genuinely such a unique and special space, and it would be an immense privilege to have this opportunity to give back to the community that has given me so much.

STUDENT AFFAIRS OFFICER

SYEDA ALI

Assalamu Alaikum,

ISoc quickly became a place for me to grow and become a better Muslimah. Alhamdulillah, by being part of the Muslimah Week and Welfare subcommittees, I have helped run socials, Welfare Wednesdays, Fajr walks, and study sessions. I now appreciate the beauty of bringing people together in the name of Allah SWT.

I understand that SAO is responsible for facilitating worship through the maintenance of the PR, the provision of prayer spaces around Cambridge, and the planning of Jummah. I feel duty-bound to run for Shura so that I can maximise my contributions and give back to the community that has made my university experience all the more enjoyable.

Prioritising collective welfare is important for us to continue growing as Muslims, and so I will dedicate my time and effort to being a valuable, supportive Shura member so that, In'sha'Allah, I can best serve the wider community.

MOHAMMAD ROHEEL

Assalamualaikum, I'm Roheel, a second-year medic at King's, and I aspire to give back to the ISoc community that has so warmly welcomed me by running for SAO.

We face many difficulties while at university and it is important to ensure that the appropriate facilities are available to keep us connected to our faith in a way pleasing to Allah. I will aim to maintain the PR as best as possible as it is the heart of ISoc while improving welfare provisions for both brothers and sisters insha'Allah. I intend to be approachable and help the rest of Shura run ISoc smoothly.

Until now, my experiences on BADG and Jummah Subcommittees have been very rewarding and I hope to expand on them by serving on Shura. I would be honoured to be your SAO and I pray that ISoc continues to grow and meet the needs of its expanding community.

PUBLICITY OFFICER

KHALYL BOUKHANOUF

Over the past year, I have had the privilege of being an active member of ISoc. Through my involvement, I have attended numerous events and relied heavily on social media and WhatsApp groups to stay informed about activities and updates. These events have not only strengthened my imaan and deepened my connection with Allah but have also made my time here at Cambridge truly enjoyable.

ISoc has consistently provided valuable opportunities, daily reminders, and updates on current global events, all of which have been essential in building a sense of community and awareness. Now I want to be the one to take on the responsibility of providing these experiences to students.

NURA MUTAHHARAH

Assalamualaikum,

My first interaction with the ISoc, as with many of you, was the CUISoc Instagram page. Upon receiving my place at the university, my foremost mission was to find a community that felt like home. First impressions matter and I remember my relief seeing the advertisement for the ISoc Freshers' group chat that allowed me to connect with ISoc members and learn more about what life is like here. At Cambridge, we are blessed to have an ISoc that is committed to engaging with its members, organising at least one event every single day. Each announcement and reminder communicated by ISoc felt like a hand reaching out to help me navigate my first year.

I am keen to take on the responsibilities of publicity officer, ensuring all Muslim applicants and students feel welcomed to participate in the community and find a space they can call home away from home.

DESIGN OFFICER

AYESHA AWAIS

As a passionate designer, I am eager to run for the role of Design Officer at Isoc. My experience includes working on the Annual Dinner, where I made posters, cards and anything else that would form the event's visual identity. Through this, I have gained valuable insight into Isoc's operations, which will help me adapt to this role. With a strong background in art and a degree in design underway, I bring both creativity and technical expertise to the position.

Isoc has been more than just a society to me, it has been a home. As a fresher struggling with homesickness, I found a sense of belonging within this community and with my faith. Now, I want to give back by using my skills to enhance Isoc's presence.

If elected, I will commit to producing meaningful visuals through posters and the Isoc magazine that reflect the values of our community.